

ONE GOAL WIN PUTS BLUES TOP OF LEAGUE

MILTON KEYNES CITY 0, WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1

(Shaw and Kilburn Floodlit League)

BOTH sides kept to the spirit of this competition and put several new players through their paces.

For Wycombe, Peter Spittle, Alan Phillips, John Priestley, Micky Holifield and Dylan Evans were given a night off and John Maskell, Philip Bycroft, Dave Bullis, Graham Stanners and Robbie Collins given a run out.

Although well on top for most of the first half, the Blues missed that goalscoring touch, and with Mark Singleton having a fine game in City's defence, Derek Harris, in particular, was kept very quiet.

Graham McKenzie worked hard alongside Roger Day and Bobby Davies in midfield, and produced the first serious Wycombe effort after 12 minutes, putting one just over the City bar from 20 yards.

Derek Harris, for once avoiding the attentions of Singleton and Graham Wears, sent a blistering shot just over after a neat touch on by Horseman following a Kennedy corner. This was to prove Wycombe's best move of the game.

Bobby Davies, in Alan Phillips' role, put a 'free' header well over to complete the chances by either side in a dull first half.

City opened the second strongly, Kingham bringing the best from John Maskell, who was forced to punch clear.

Shut down

Geoff Collier and Kingham, although working hard, gave Maskell little further trouble, and with Bullis 'shut down' by Bob Spence at the other end, a goalless draw looked inevitable.

But on 82 minutes, Day put McKenzie through on the right, and a 'Jock special' hard and rising from just inside the City penalty box was only parried by keeper Robinson and the ball cannoned off Singleton as he got back quickly to cover on the line.

In the last minute, Milton Keynes nearly saved the day with an effort from Collier which Stanners headed away with Maskell beaten.

This result keeps Wanderers' strong challenge at the top of the league well on target, with the Blues heading Banbury with a better goal difference, but both on 18 points from seven games. They meet at Banbury next Tuesday.